

40000 to 40039—Continued. (Quoted notes by Mr. F. N. Meyer.)

new fruiting bush for the semiarid sections of the United States, collected at an altitude of 6,500 feet. See also remarks under No. 2127a [S. P. I. No. 39432]."

40024. DIOSPYROS LOTUS L. Diospyraceæ. Persimmon.

"(No. 2162a. Hsiku, Kansu, China. October 20, 1914.) A variety of *Ghoorma* persimmon, with fruits much larger than the ordinary sort; shape also different, being flattened globose; color yellow, changing later on into blackish. Taste much like a *kaki*, making one think that *D. lotus* possibly could be developed into a promising fruit-bearing tree adapted especially for mild-wintered semiarid regions."

40025. SCHIZANDRA SPHENANTHERA Rehd. and Wilson. Magnoliaceæ.

"(No. 2163a. Paoki, Shensi, China. September 12, 1914.) A perennial woody vine of slender growth, found between tall scrub in shady places; foliage not unlike that of *Actinidia kolomikta*, but somewhat thinner and with red petioles. The carmine-red berries are borne in small spikes on fleshy stalks, and they hang down gracefully; these berries are the size of currants; they possess a subacid, spicy, aromatic taste, somewhat too pronounced to make it acceptable right away to most Caucasian people. The Chinese eat them much and claim they purify the blood and dislodge waste matter from the body. By selection better varieties could be obtained, no doubt, which might prove to be quite acceptable to the western palate. This vine deserves to be experimented with for the following purposes: As an ornamental cover vine for shady places, as a possible new fruiting vine to be grown on trellises on northern exposures, and as a medicinal plant having apparently some value as a blood cleanser. Chinese name *Wu wei tzü*, meaning 'fruit of five tastes.'"

40026. VITIS sp. Vitaceæ. Grape.

"(No. 2164a. Near Kwanyintang (between Paoki and Fenghsien), Shensi, China. September 15, 1914.) Wild grapes, overrunning tall scrub and trees on mountain sides at altitudes between 3,000 and 5,000 feet. The small bunches of blackish blue berries are collected by the people and eaten, but no attempts seem to be made to domesticate these wild grapes. Of value possibly in breeding experiments, as stocks, and as ornamental cover vines for pergolas, etc. There may be several distinct forms among these seeds."

40027. DIPELTA YUNNANENSIS Franchet. Caprifoliaceæ.

"(No. 2165a. Near Paoji (near Hsiku), Kansu, China. November 6, 1914.) A shrub of the appearance of a *Lonicera* when seen in winter, but bearing triangular winged fruits. Cuttings sent under No. 1229 [S. P. I. No. 39905], which see for further information."

40028. EUCOMMIA ULMOIDES Oliver. Trochodendraceæ. Tuchung.

"(No. 2166a. Huihsien, Kansu, China. September 28, 1914.) A Chinese caoutchouc tree, found wild on densely forested mountain slopes in southwestern Shensi and southeastern Kansu; also much cultivated in gardens and here and there planted along roadsides. This tree has the peculiar property of exhibiting rubberlike threads of shining whitish color whenever pieces of bark or leaf are snapped across, but it shows this peculiarity strongest of all in its winged fruits, which fact is often shown by the Chinese to those who have never seen it before.